

WOODMANCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 8th April 2014
at 7.30p.m.**

(Members of the Public were invited to attend)

In the absence of a full time clerk the minutes were taken by Councillor Grimes

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Present: WPC Cllrs. C. Broucke (Chairman), M. Grimes, P. Williams, A. Underwood
D. Austin M. Parnell and J. Ochoa

1. Councillor Broucke introduced Laura from the HDC and David Barling from County.
2. Minutes from last years APM were agreed.
3. Chairmans Update. The chairman confirmed that 2 x salt bins had been delivered. He took the opportunity to thank the now retired past County Councillor Derek Deedman for all his hard work and activity on behalf of Woodmancote Parish over the years. He went on to explain the various improvements to the Blackstone recreation ground and cricket academy throughout the year. He also confirmed that the PC had decided to put forward their own Neighbourhood Plan and gave a brief update on the progress of the Councils efforts so far. he ended his report by thanking the PC for their hard work throughout the year.
4. County Councillor David Barlings report. Environment flooding was a major concern to the County and it was confirmed that despite the extraordinary weather the River Adur did not breach in real terms. He also informed that a £30m fund had been set aside to tackle highways, most notably pot holes in the region. He advised members of the public to report road failings through the County Council website under the heading of OMC. An effective system was now in place to address road damage via this system.
5. District Councillor David Caldwell's report. District were obliged to produce planning consents for 15000 new homes within the next 20 years. The majority were likely to fall to the north and east of the A24 around Horsham. He confirmed there were now 25000 subscribers to green waste collection in the region. He mentioned the Broadbridge Heath was likely to see a substantial redevelopment in the coming years. On the matter of the second runway at Gatwick the district council were still undecided on whether to support this. He advised that applications for Solar Parks were up substantially on the previous year.
6. A member of the public asked the council what their position was on the rumours circulating regarding a new town development being muted by Mayfields Market Towns Ltd. The chairman of the PC responded by saying that until and unless there was a formal planning application made there was nothing they could do to comment as to do so would potentially prejudice their position later in any future process. This response was supported by both County Councillor Barling and District Councillor Caldwell.
7. Neighbourhood Watch. Crispin Blazeby spoke for the NW network that has been set up within the parish and confirmed that the community at large should keep one another informed of any suspicious behaviour and crime. See web site for details of access to this network.

8. Laura from the HDC is a professional Neighbour Plan coordinator for the council and kindly offered her advise to the council and the members of the public on how to prepare an effective NP and what the various stages were. So far she confirmed that 15 parishes from the 32 in district had confirmed that they were in the process of preparing their plans. She advised WPC to employ professional help and gave details of where this help could be found both from HDC and other organisations such as Locality and Planning Aide. She suggested that a plan such as that of WPC might reasonably take 18 months to produce. She advised of a meeting to be held at Pulborough village hall on May 1st for all representatives of participating parishes to attend a NP ideas sharing event.
9. A member of the public complained that the pavements in and around the Bramlands Lane area and along by the parish hall were dangerously covered in debris and leaves. DB suggested contacting Tim Boxall of the Highways Inspectorate. Another member of the public raised concerns over parking along Blackstone Lane outside the cricket academy on weekends.
10. The chairman closed the meeting by asking everyone to be upstanding to observe a few moments silence in memory of both John and David Allen who had passed away during the previous week. The meeting ended and refreshments were served.